THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Since 1996—98, Marketing Plans for setting up of LPG distributorships were prepared by public sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) taking into account the following:

(i) All urban locations with a population of 10,000 and above by including the potential of adjoining villages falling within the radius of 15 Kms.;

(ii) All viable urban locations having a population of 5,000 and above by taking into account the potential of adjoining villages falling within 15 Kms. radius;

(iii) Viable locations having cluster of villages within 15 Kms. radius of nucleus villages having a population of 10,000 and above.

(iv) Villages within 15 Kms. radius around towns having population of 1 lakh and above to be surveyed for opening of LPG distributorships.

(b) to (d) OMCs have included 1247 locations for setting up of LPG distributorships exclusively for rural areas under various marketing plans. As on 1.10.2001, 217 LPG distributorships are operating exclusively in rural areas.

Problem faced by petroleum products dealers

†1029. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of petrol and diesel pumps and gas agencies in Delhi, UP and Haryana whose allocations were cancelled during the last three years;

(b) the details of the agencies whose allocations have been restored;

(c) whether it is a fact that most of the agency holders are selling their agency of petrol and diesel pumps and LPG;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to solve the problems of the agency holders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) The State-wise number of retail outlets and LPG distributorships terminated during the last 3 years, i.e., 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana is given below:—

State	Number of Retail Outlets Terminated	Number of LPG distributorships Terminated
Delhi	2	6
Uttar Pradesh	14	12
Haryana	1	5

(b) One LPG distributorship out of the above has been restored in Uttar Pradesh.

(c) to (e) Retail outlet dealers/LPG distributors can approach the field officers, Divisional/Area Managers, Officers-in-charge of State Offices/Regional Offices of the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) for solving their problems. Periodic meetings/conventions are held by the OMCs where dealers/distributors get an opportunity to meet senior officers for redressal of their problems, if any. There has not been any such case of sale of any RO/LPG agency on account of their operational problems. However, as and when benami operation of these agencies come to the notice of Government/OMCs, appropriate action is taken against them in terms of distributorship/dealership agreement.